

Rural Water Policy Advisory [8/27/2018]

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NRWA to Question EPA on UCMR4 Burden: Many small communities are experiencing sticker shock at the cost of EPA's new unregulated monitoring rules (UCMR4). For example, the Washington County Water Company (IL) is looking at monitoring costs of over \$20,000 to comply with the new EPA rule ([estimate](#)). In addition to the cost of sampling is the question of necessity of the monitoring. Washington County Water only purchases from other water utilities that treat the water and are taking many of the same tests (i.e. metals, pesticides, volatiles, microcystins and cyanotoxins). Washington County Water is paying for sampling at each of the four intakes from the four wholesalers from which it purchases wholesale treated water. Communities under 10,000 in population are not required to pay for the sampling. EPA pays for a sample population of communities under the population thresholds. However, UCMR4 costs can be significant for communities just over the 10,000 person threshold. EPA's database lists 2,288 community water systems between 10,000 - 25,000 persons ([EPA list](#)). NRWA is planning on inquiring to EPA into the need for the testing in consecutive water systems and any alternatives for more economical testing. If your community is experiencing exorbitant testing costs for UCMR4, please contact [us](#).

When Complying with EPA Rules Puts the Public in More Danger - Pittsburgh Edition ([Pew Trusts](#)).

Candidate in Contentious Gubernatorial Campaign Addresses Oklahoma Rural Water Association Conference: Candidate says "they're going to run hard in rural areas in the last few days of this race ([KTUL](#))."

U.S. Senator Schumer Calls for Federal Probe of New York American Water -- Angry Customers to Demand Public Takeover: Residents have seen their water bills increase upwards of \$800 a month. Citizens criticize public utility commission for having "rubber-stamped" the 2017-approved rate increase ([Newsday](#)).

Hurricane Lane Leaves Damaged Roads and Downed Power Lines, but Little Catastrophic Damage ([Maui News](#)).

Republican Leaders Plan to Avoid a Government Shutdown: The plan is for the House and Senate to negotiate three "minibus" spending bills in September and get them enacted by the first of October, the end of the fiscal year.

More Than 1.5 million Michigan Residents Have Been Drinking Water Contaminated with PFAS, According to the State ([Mlive News](#)).

EPA's Miguel Del Toral Tells Federal Court He Was "Stunned" State Was Not Making Flint Implement Corrosion Control and He Made Recommendations for Officials to Take Action ([MLive News](#)).

National Rural Water Association

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The National Rural Water Association is the country's largest public drinking water and sanitation supply organization with over 30,000 members. Safe drinking water and sanitation are generally recognized as the most essential public health, public welfare, and civic necessities.

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